

FirstOntario Credit Union recognized for excellence in philanthropy

Association of Fundraising Professionals honours FirstOntario's commitment to communities

Hamilton, ON, August 28, 2026 – FirstOntario Credit Union has been named the recipient of the 2026 *Excellence in Corporate Philanthropy Award* by the Association of Fundraising Professionals – Golden Horseshoe, recognizing the credit union's sustained support for community initiatives and organizations across the region.

The award celebrates a corporation or corporate foundation that demonstrates outstanding financial support, meaningful community involvement, and an ability to inspire others to take leadership roles in philanthropy. FirstOntario was selected for its commitment to strengthening local communities through partnerships and support for initiatives that respond to community needs.

"This recognition reflects who we are as a credit union and how deeply we believe in the power of working together with community partners," said Joanne Battaglia, SVP, Marketing, Communications and Community Partnerships, FirstOntario Credit Union. "Our commitment to giving back is strengthened by the dedication of our employees, the support of our members and the incredible work of the organizations we partner with every day."

The award will be presented as part of the Golden Horseshoe chapter's 2026 National Philanthropy Day celebration. Recognized in Canada on November 15, National Philanthropy Day honours the generosity and leadership of individuals, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and communities that create lasting change through charitable giving, volunteerism, and service.

About FirstOntario Credit Union

FirstOntario is a full service cooperative financial institution, serving members for more than 85 years throughout the Golden Horseshoe, Niagara Region, and Southwestern regions of Ontario. With \$7.9 billion in assets under management, FirstOntario is one of Canada's largest credit unions. Everyone is welcome to be part of FirstOntario for financial services including daily transactions, mortgages, lines of credit, loans and investments. FirstOntario profits are invested into the communities we serve through support for entrepreneurs, competitive rates and charitable pursuits including our award-winning student nutrition program. Learn more about us at [FirstOntario.com](https://www.firstontario.com).

Media Contact

Stacey Marshall

Director, Communications, FirstOntario Credit Union

Stacey.Marshall@FirstOntario.com